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TECH CENTER 1600/2900 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jose M. G.-M. ) RE: **RESPONSE**  
Freire, et al. )  
)  
) Date: March 7, 2002  
Serial No.: 09/829,779 )  
) Examiner: A. Pryor  
Filed: April 10, 2001 )  
) Group Art Unit: 1616  
For: "Growth . . ." )  
) Our Ref: 618736-3/JP/B-4158  
)

#5/a  
JRP  
3/30/02

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action that was mailed on September 7, 2001, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the above-identified application without prejudice or disclaimer.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace currently pending Claim 13 with amended Claim 13, which is set forth in the enclosed Appendix A. (Appendix B, which is enclosed herewith, shows how currently pending Claim 13 was